

AGENDA

**Recommendation for Council Action****AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL****Regular Meeting: September 20, 2018**Item Number: **023****Public Health**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of State Health Services to purchase Human Immunodeficiency Virus medications under the Federal Ryan White HIV/AIDS Part A grant program, for a two-year term beginning October 1, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.

Lead Department	Austin Public Health.
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available in the FY 2017-2018 Austin Public Health Department's Operating Budget. Funding for the contract is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.
For More Information	Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturup, Interim Assistant Director, 512-972-5167; Glenn Selfe, HIV Resources Administration Interim Manager, 512-972-5115; Estella Kirscht, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5039.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	June 26, 2018 - the HIV Planning Council approved the current budget as part of its annual budget review for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A grant.

Additional Backup Information:

The purpose of the Federal Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) is to provide medical and

support services for Persons Living With HIV (PLWH). Different “Parts” of the grant provide services for low-income PLWH through various channels. Part A RWHAP funding is awarded to urban areas most severely impacted by the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

The Austin Part A Transitional Grant Area (TGA) consists of Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties. The TGA received \$4.92 million in funding for the current year. Direct services funded by Part A are delivered by community-based organizations through contracts with the City. Contracts and other grant oversight are managed by Austin Public Health in its designated role as Administrative Agent for the RWHAP Part A grant.

The primary goal of RWHAP services is to provide accessibility and maintenance in medical care to PLWH in order to achieve viral suppression. Viral suppression through antiretroviral medication is the primary key to remaining healthy for PLWH and is a crucial element of ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Through this agreement, the Austin TGA will reimburse DSHS for HIV medications supplied through the Texas AIDS Drug Assistance Program. This established partnership provides medications to eligible PLWH in the TGA who have no prescription coverage from Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance. DSHS has access to steeply discounted pricing through the federal 340B drug program. The partnership is a cost-effective and efficient way of using Part A funding to help PLWH in the TGA achieve viral suppression, remain healthy, and reduce further transmission of the virus.